**Motor accidents in Delhi**

1632. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of motor accidents in Delhi during the last three years and what is the number of cases for payment of compensation to the accident victims which are pending final disposal in various tribunals for the last one, two and three years respectively; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for the speedy disposal of such cases for early payment of compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The Number of road accidents are indicated below:—

| Year | No. of motor accidents |
|---|---|
| 1984 | 5809 |
| 1985 | 6254 |
| 1986 | 6547 |
| 1987 (1-1-87 to 31-3-87) | 1636 |

Information for the number of cases pending for payment of conpensation with the Tribunals for last one, two and three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) In addition to the six Motor Accidents Claim Tribunals in Delhi, the Government of India have set up Lok Adalat to decide pending cases of compensation, to the victims of motor accidents. During the five sittings of the Lok Adalat since 6.10.85 to 30.11.86 a total of 570 cases were decided and Rs. 2,15,16,350/- were awarded to the victims of motor accidents in Delhi.

**Pension to freedom fighters from U.P.**

1633. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of freedom fighters from Uttar Pradesh who had applied for pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme during the last three years;

(b) what is the number of cases sanctioned/rejected; and

(c) what is the number of widows of freedom fighters from U.P. to whom pensions have been granted during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The last date of receipt of applications under the Swatantrata Saink Samman Pension Scheme was 31.3.82. Applications received after this date are not acceptable unless they are supported by official evidence of sufferings. Such cases are very few in number. However, fresh applications were invited from participants in ARYA SAMAJ MOVEMENT which was recognised in 1985, and 137 applications have been received from such participants belonging to U.P.

(b) and (c) During the last three years *Viz.* 1984, 1985 and 1986, 427 persons including 76 widows from U.P. were granted pension and 2956 cases were rejected. Pension was transferred to 195 widows of deceased freedom fighters during this period.

**Development of agro-forestry**

1634. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleaed to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop agro-forestry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to encourage the farmers and rural landless in this direction;

(d) whether it is a fact that 'Tree Patta' *i.e.* allotment of land for tree plantation is being encouraged by some State Governments to encourage agro-forestry; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Wastelands Development Board has initiated a scheme of decentralised nurseries and a component of seedling distribution for farm forestry under scheme of Rural Fuelwood Plantation and Afforestation of eco-sensitive non-Himalayan areas. A new scheme, namely, 'Establishment of Silvi-pastural Farms' to augment quality fodder/grass production has also been started.

(c) Decentralised nurseries, distribution of seedlings, tree growers cooperatives and tree pattas are some of the steps taken by the Government to encourage the farmers and rural landless in this direction.

(d) and (e) Degraded revenue/community lands, and strips along road sides and canal sides are considered for the issue of tree pattas to the rural poor. The States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have introduced the tree patta scheme, in one form or the either.

**Change of name of Bombay city**

1635. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 158 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1987 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the demand for change of name of the city of Bombay to Mumbai is neither on the grounds of local patriotism nor for linguistic reasons or for merely satisfying the local sentiments but to change the distorted version of the original name of Mumbai to Bombay given by he Britshers, just like Badoda to Vadodara; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to accept the demand for changing the name of the city, if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The matter had been examined and all the relevant factors were taken into consideration. There is however, no change in the stand already taken by the Government.

**Deaths due to Open Manholes in Delhi**

1636. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of unnatural deaths that occurred in Delhi due to open manholes during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what steps are being taken to cover the open manholes; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to cover all the manholes in the near future, if so, what are the details in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) According to the Delhi Fire Service Headquarters, 5 deaths occurred in Delhi during the last 3 years.

(b) and (c) According to the NDMC, open manholes are covered as soon as noticed. A large number of manholes were stolen, which have been covered by RCC slabs, red sand stone slabs etc. The NDMC has decided to replace these with 'Polycrete' covers. The Cantonment Board are providing manhole covers of